Claims

[c1]   1. A method to gauge and control churn of a project, comprising:
determining an estimated project churn; and
allocating resources in response to the estimated project churn.

[c2]   2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the estimated project churn comprises collecting heuristic information on each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c3]   3. The method of claim 2, further comprising entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c4]   4. The method of claim 2, further comprising performing a weighted average duration analysis for each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c5]   5. The method of claim 2, further comprising determining an average time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c6]   6. The method of claim 5, wherein determining the average time requirement comprises averaging at least an optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c7]   7. The method of claim 6, further comprising entering a weight factor for each optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement.

[c8]   8. The method of claim 7, further comprising performing a weighted average duration analysis on the average time requirement for each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c9]   9. The method of claim 8, further comprising determining an impact to the project in response to the weighted average duration analysis.

[c10]   10. The method of claim 1, further comprising tracking reworked tasks and time duration to complete each re-

worked task during the course of the project.

[c11]   11. A method to gauge and control churn of a project, comprising:

entering a project-specific task list;

entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes;

determining an average time requirement to rework or modify each task requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes;

performing a weighted average duration analysis on any tasks requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes; and

determining an impact to the project in response to the weighted average duration analysis.

[c12]   12. The method of claim 11, further comprising collecting heuristic information on each task of the project to determine the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c13]   13. The method of claim 11, wherein performing the weighted average duration analysis comprises perform-

ing a program evaluation and review technique (PERT).

[c14]   14. The method of claim 11, wherein determining the impact to the project comprises totaling times for all affected tasks from the weighted average duration analysis.

[c15]   15. The method of claim 11, further comprising allocating resources in response to the impact to the project.

[c16]   16. The method of claim 11, further comprising tracking reworked tasks and time duration to complete each reworked task during the course of the project.

[c17]   17. The method of claim 11, further comprising presenting the impact to the project to provide an early warning.

[c18]   18. The method of claim 11, wherein entering the project-specific tasks comprises generating a graphical user interface for a user to enter the tasks.

[c19]   19. The method of claim 11, wherein entering the at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements comprises generating a graphical user interface for a user to enter the time requirements.

[c20]   20. The method of claim 11, further comprising entering a weighting factor for each of the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to perform the

weighted average duration analysis.

[c21] 21. A system to gauge and control churn of a project, comprising:

an input device to enter heuristic information on each task of a project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes;

a processor; and

an analysis program operable on the processor to determine an impact to the project in response to any potential project changes using the heuristic information.

[c22] 22. The system of claim 21, further comprising a display to present graphical user interfaces for entering the heuristic information and other information.

[c23] 23. The system of claim 22, further comprising a user interface generator to generate a graphical user interface displayable to a user on the display to enter a project-specific task list.

[c24] 24. The system of claim 22, further comprising a user interface generator to generate a graphical user interface displayable to a user to enter at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of a project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c25]　25. The system of claim 24, wherein the user interface generator is adapted to generate a graphical user interface to enter a weighting factor for each of the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to perform a weighted average duration analysis.

[c26]　26. The system of claim 21, wherein the analysis program comprises a weighted average duration analysis program.

[c27]　27. The system of claim 26, wherein the analysis program comprises a programmed evaluation and review technique (PERT).

[c28]　28. The system of claim 21, further comprising means for presenting the impact to the project.

[c29]　29. The system of claim 21, further comprising means to track reworked tasks and time duration to complete each reworked task during the course of the project.

[c30]　30. The system of claim 21, further comprising means to allocate resources in response to the impact to the project.

[c31]　31. A method of making a system to gauge and control churn of a project, comprising:
providing an input device to enter heuristic information

on each task of a project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes;

providing a processor; and

providing an analysis program operable on the processor to determine an impact to the project in response to any potential project changes using the heuristic information.

[c32]   32. The method of claim 31, further comprising providing a display to present graphical user interfaces for entering the heuristic information and other information.

[c33]   33. The method of claim 32, further comprising providing a user interface generator to generate graphical user interfaces displayable to a user on the display to enter information including:

a project-specific task list,

at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes, and

a weight factor for each of the optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements.

[c34]   34. The method of claim 31, wherein providing the analysis program comprises providing a weighted average duration analysis program.

[c35] 35. The method of claim 31, further comprising providing means for presenting the impact to the project.

[c36] 36. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method, comprising:
determining an estimated project churn; and
allocating resources in response to the estimated project churn.

[c37] 37. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 36, wherein determining an estimated project churn comprises collecting heuristic information on each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c38] 38. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 37, further comprising entering at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c39] 39. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of

claim 37, further comprising performing a weighted average duration analysis for each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c40]   40. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 37, further comprising determining an average time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c41]   41. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 37, wherein determining the average time requirement comprises averaging at least an optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c42]   42. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 41, further comprising entering a weight factor for each optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement.

[c43] 43. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 42, further comprising performing a weighted average duration analysis on the average time requirement for each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c44] 44. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 36, further comprising generating a graphical user interface for a user to enter a project-specific task list.

[c45] 45. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 36, further comprising generating a graphical user interface for a user to enter at least optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirements to rework or modify each task of the project requiring rework or modification in response to any potential project changes.

[c46] 46. The computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 45, further comprising generating a graphical user interface for a user to enter a weight factor for each optimistic, pessimistic and expected time requirement.